

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 8, 9, and 16 are independent. In the Final Office Action dated August 17, 2007, the Examiner rejected all pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,000,187 ("*Messinger*").

In response, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 8, 9, and 16 to more particularly define the invention. No new subject matter has been added. The clarifying amendments are supported by the originally filed claims and by disclosure in the originally filed application, for example, at page 25, paragraphs 92 and 93.

Specifically, Applicants' amended independent claim 1 recites, among other things, "displaying the first work pane having a first user interface pattern associated with a first of the two or more sequential steps of the task and the second work pane having a second user interface pattern associated with a second of the two or more sequential steps of the task simultaneously in the same window." In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner contended that "labels 43 and 50 are the first and second panes . . . [and] are displayed at the same time." Final Office Action, page 7. Contrary to the Examiner's contention, *Messinger* merely shows a general task list 43 and a generic display area 50 being displayed in a screen such as screen 40b and 40c. See Fig. 2 of *Messinger*. Neither task list 43 nor display 50 is specifically related to a first or second of "the two or more sequential steps of the task" as required by the amended claim 1. As previously pointed out by the Applicants, screens 40b and 40c, even when made to correspond to sequential steps associated with a task (e.g., steps 1 and 2 in task smurf detection), are nonetheless never displayed simultaneously in the same window as

recited in amended claim 1. Rather, screen 40c replaces screen 40b in the window when the user completes step 1 of the task and move on to step 2. Therefore, at least because *Messinger* fails to show or suggest “displaying the first work pane having a first user interface pattern associated with a first of the two or more sequential steps of the task and the second work pane having a second user interface pattern associated with a second of the two or more sequential steps of the task simultaneously in the same window,” amended independent claim 1 is not anticipated by *Messinger* under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Amended independent claims 8 recites features that are similar to those discussed above in connection with claim 1 and is, therefore, also not anticipated by *Messinger* for at least the reasons stated above. More specifically, amended claim 8 recites “displaying the first pane having a first user interface pattern associated with a first of two or more sequential steps of a task, the second pane having a second user interface pattern associated with a second of the two or more sequential steps of a task.” The sequence of features recited in claim 8 indicate that all three panes are displayed in the same window prior to hiding of the second pane. Therefore, at least because *Messinger* does not show or suggest displayed more than one pane, where at least a first and second pane are associated with a first and second of two or more sequential steps of a task in the same window as discussed above, claim 8 is not anticipated by *Messinger*. Amended claims 9 and 16 are system claims that correspond to claims 1 and 8, respectively, and are also allowable over *Messinger* for the same reasons that claims 1 and 8 are allowable. Dependent claims 2-7 and 10-15 depend

from claims 1 and 9, respectively, and are additionally allowable at least because of their dependency on allowable base claims.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that pending claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request prompt reconsideration by the Examiner.


Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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